## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 XMB-04 /042 W

R 291749Z MAR 78 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7331

UNCLAS CAIRO 09568

PASS USDA

E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS:EAGR,EG SUBJECT: CCC CREDITS

- 1. DURING COURSE OF CEREMONY FOR SIGNING AID AGREEMENTS TODAY, MINISTER OF ECONOMY HAMED EL SAYEH AGAIN RAISED QUESTION OF COTTON IMPORTS WITH AMBASSADOR. EL SAYEH INDICATED THAT GOE CONTINUES TO FACE CRITICAL CRUNCH IN IMPORTING SHORT STAPLE COTTON FOR EGYPTIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY. SINCE AID CIP FINANCING FOR INITIAL 30,000 BALES HAS ALREADY BEEN UTILIZED AND NEW ORDERS MUST BE PLACED, AND SINCE CCC CREDITS NOT YET AVAILABLE, EL SAYEH SAID THAT GOE IS ARRANGING WITH GULF ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT (GODE) TO UTILIZE DOLLARS 10 MILLION FOR BRIDGE FINANCING ON ADDITIONAL COTTON PURCHASES. EL SAYEH SAID HE EXPECTED THIS DOLLARS 10 MILLION TO BE USED FOR PURCHASES OF AMERICAN SHORT STAPLE COTTONS. WE PRESUME MINISTRY SUPPLY AND COTTON COMPANIES WILL SOON BE ON THE MARKET WITH THIS FINANCING AVAILABLE.
- 2. IN MEANTIME, MINISTER INDICATED HE HAS RECEIVED LETTER UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM USAID DIRECTOR (PREPARED IN COORDINATION WITH AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE) AGAIN REITERATING USDA REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CCC LINE OF CREDIT. EL SAYEH STATED HE HAS ALREADY INSTRUCTED NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT TO COME UP WITH FIRM PROPOSALS ON HOW CCC REQUIREMENTS FOR BANKING ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MET. HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO GIVE WRITTEN STATEMENT TO AMBASSADOR ON THIS MATTER IN NEAR

FUTURE.

3. BELIEVE WE MAY BE RAPIDLY APPROACHING A POINT WHERE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE BEGIN FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS ON CCC LINE OF CREDIT FOR COTTON ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN ADDITION TO WORKING OUT BANKING ARRANGEMENTS, GOE WILL HAVE TO BRING CCC AND PL 480 ARREARAGES UP TO DATE. ON THIS LATTER POINT, WE ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH NATIONAL BANK TO REDUCE ARREARAGES WHICH ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS ARE NOW DOWN TO ABOUT DOLLARS 100,000. EILTS#

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: CREDIT, COTTON, AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 29 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO09568
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D780137-0852 Format: TEL

From: CAIRO Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1 Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780315/aaaaamgz.tel

Line Count: 72 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation Codes. Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: d221febb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Office: ACTION AGRE

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a

**Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a SAS ID: 3174381 Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE Subject: CCC CREDITS TAGS: EAGR, EG, CCC

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d221febb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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